

Kentucky State Parks Adventure Programs



All Kentucky State Park Adventure Programs are subject to change and may be cancelled or postponed by the Kentucky Department of Parks due to unforeseen circumstances. Please confirm event schedule prior to arrival for date, time and fee information, especially if you plan to visit a Kentucky State Park for a specific event or program. Event / program details and contact information for all 52 Kentucky State Parks can be found www.parks.ky.gov.

CANOE EXCURSIONS



9/06/08 to 9/07/08

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park - Overnight Canoe Trip on Upper Dewey Lake

This excursion is a guided, naturalist overnight canoe trip on Dewey Lake. We'll canoe to the upper reaches of the lake to a cabin that once occupied workers that built the lake in the 1940's and now maintained by the Oddfellows Youth Camp. There we will spend the night and tell stories around the campfire. The next morning includes a tree and wildflower hike exploring the Dewey Lake Wildlife Management Area. The registration fee of \$50 per person includes an evening cookout, overnight cabin stay, breakfast, hike, and more.

Contact Information: Trinity Shepherd, Park Naturalist. 606-889-1790. Trinity.Shepherd@ky.gov

9/13/2008 to 9/14/2008

Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park - Licking River Overnight Canoe Trip

An all-inclusive 23-mile excursion on the Licking River. Park will supply canoe's, Life jackets, transportation for 12, tents, sleeping bags, bed rolls, snacks, evening meal, and breakfast all for just \$75.00. 20 miles on first day, additional 8 miles the second day returning to the park by 1:00 pm.

Contact Information: Paul Tierney, Park Naturalist. 859-289-5507. ptierney@qx.net

9/27/2008 to 9/28/2008, 10/4/2008 to 10/5/2008

Barren River Lake State Resort Park - Barren River's Overnight Canoe Trips

Join our staff for a fun weekend canoeing and camping. This is a 20 mile paddle along the Green River. We provide all the equipment and the training (if you've never paddled before). This trip is for ages 16 and over. Must pre-register. \$75 per person.

Contact Information: Lisa Deavers, Recreation Supervisor. 270-646-2151. Lisa.Deavers@ky.gov.

10/11/2008 to 10/12/2008

Cumberland Falls State Resort Park - Overnight Canoe Adventure

Many people enjoy canoeing and would like to travel further than they can go in a day. The Naturalist staff at Cumberland Falls can take you on an overnight canoe adventure. You will have the option to fish for River Smallmouth Bass and Walleye. (a Kentucky fishing license is required). We will begin in the morning and canoe and fish until time to set up camp. We will camp overnight and canoe the next day until lunch. The naturalist staff can show you what and how to pack and also teach minimum impact camping techniques. Not only will you learn how to plan an overnight canoe trip, but we also provide all of the equipment needed. (Bring your own fishing gear). Limited to ages 18 and up. Registration fee of \$75 includes all equipment rental, instruction, and meals. Registrants will receive a list of suggested personal items to bring prior to their trip.

Contact information: Bret Smitley or Steve Gilbert, Park Naturalists. 606-528-4121. BretA.Smitley@ky.gov or Steve.Gilbert@ky.gov

11/1/2008

Natural Bridge State Resort Park - Canoeing for Beginners

Learn the basics of canoeing on Mill Creek Lake at Natural Bridge State Resort Park and then experience river canoeing on the beautiful Red River at the Red River Gorge Geological Area. The river trip is 8 miles on an enjoyable class I section of the Red River. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Registration fee of \$25 per person includes instruction, canoe, paddle, life jacket, and snacks.

Contact Information: Brian Gasdorf, Park Naturalist. 606-663-2214. Brian.Gasdorf@ky.gov

OVERNIGHT BACKCOUNTRY BACKPACKING



9/20/2008 to 9/21/2008, 9/27/2008 to 9/28/2008, 11/8/2008 to 11/10/2008, 11/15/2008 to 11/16/2008

Natural Bridge State Resort Park - Leave No Trace Beginner Backpacking Workshops

Learn the basics of Leave No Trace backpacking while enjoying the beauty of Natural Bridge and the Red River Gorge! Trips are 8-10 miles round-trip with an elevation gain of 400'. Participants must be able to hike this distance carrying 30 pounds. Space is limited and participants must be 18 or older. The registration fee of \$75 per person includes instruction, equipment, and meals for the duration of the trip. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. The November 8th - 10th workshop is a two-night trip which is only open to participants who have participated previously on a one-night trip.

Contact Information: Brian Gasdorf, Park Naturalist. 606-663-2214. Brian.Gasdorf@ky.gov

10/25/2008 to 10/26/2008, 11/8/2008 to 11/9/2008

Lake Barkley State Resort Park - Barkley Backpacking 101

Interested in spending a night under starry skies and a day surrounded by woods and water? Setting out on an overnight backpacking trip and investing in the gear to do it can be a chore - unless you've been on one of Barkley's Backpacking 101 Weekends! Join the Park Naturalist on Saturday morning for a one-night camping trip where we provide the gear, the experience, and the memories! Registration is limited, so call ahead and reserve your spot. Registration deadlines are 14 days prior to each trip.

Contact information: Jenny Howard, Park Naturalist. 270-924-1131. Jenny.Howard@ky.gov

HIKING



9/13/2008, 9/27/2008

Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park - Adventure Pennyrile Forest

Adventure Pennyrile Forest offers a naturalist guided hike in 2008. Hike half of the Pennyrile Nature Trail for a registration fee of \$12 per person. Registration fee includes: transportation, a bottle of water, snack, and Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park Patch. Registered participants can get a 10% discount off park lodging. The hike is in Pennyrile State Forest and Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park and is over 6 miles. The trail rating is difficult. Download [event](#) registration form (pdf file).

Contact information: Becky Clark, Park Naturalist. 270-797-3421. RebeccaE.Clark@ky.gov

9/27/2008

Carter Caves State Resort Park - Kentucky Backcountry Event "4 C's Trek"

Test your endurance into the backcountry of the park on the Carter Caves Cross Country Trail! This 7.5-mile loop excursion is on moderately difficult terrain. It highlights swinging bridges, views of the secluded Smoky Lake and a passage through Shangra La Arch. The

leaves should be in the midst of changing for this beautiful fall hike! Required equipment includes a sack lunch, good hiking boots, several bottles of water and a backpack to carry your equipment in. The fee includes the guided hike, a walking stick and a Carter Caves walking stick medallion. The fee is \$20 per person. The trek is approximately 7.5 miles and 5-6 hours in length. Meets at the Welcome Center at 9:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required!

Contact Information: Coy Ainsley, Park Naturalist. 606-286-4411. Coy.Ainsley@ky.gov
10/11/2008, 12/6/2008

Natural Bridge State Resort Park - Exploring Arch Country Guided Hikes

For the adventurous only! Enjoy a day of hiking throughout Kentucky's Land of the Arches! On these guided hikes you will get a good look at the area's rugged cliff lines, rock shelters, rhododendron, and natural arches. Destinations include both well-known features of the area as well as some of its little known secrets! Each trip is different. Total distances vary from 6 to 12 miles. The registration fee of \$15 includes guide, snacks, and a Natural Bridge souvenir. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Families are welcome.

Contact Information: Brian Gasdorf, Park Naturalist. 606-663-2214. Brian.Gasdorf@ky.gov

11/1/2008

Cumberland Falls State Resort Park - Moonbow Trail Trek

Hikers can choose a challenging 4.5 or 10.8 mile trek through the beautiful Cumberland River Gorge. These Adventures are unguided but hikers will pass through check points along the way. Registration fee: \$15.00. Event time: 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Contact information: Bret Smitley or Steve Gilbert, Park Naturalists. 606-528-4121. BretA.Smitley@ky.gov or Steve.Gilbert@ky.gov

CAVING



11/07/2008 to 11/09/2008

Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park - Beginners Caving Expedition

If you would like to learn more about the recreational sport of caving, then make plans to attend our first Beginners Caving Expedition. We will offer educational programs about caves and the recreational sport of caving, go hiking to learn about the geography of the area, and take you on guided tours through a cave.

Contact information: Jamie Avery, Recreation Supervisor. 270-433-7431. Jamie.Avery@ky.gov

1/23/2009 to 1/25/2009

Carter Caves State Resort Park - Carter Caves Crawlathon

The Crawlathon is somewhat unique among caving events in that it provides beneficial activities for anyone interested in caves and caving without regard to their level of expertise. Examples of the trips offered include, wild caving trips, canoeing, pit plunging, vertical workshops, proper techniques of caving workshops, kids trips, etc. The weekend also includes Friday and Saturday night presentations on cave topics and of course the squeezebox competition. Crawlathon is a weekend packed full of adventure, excitement, friends, family and memories. Registration deadline: 1/15/2008. Event time: 4pm to 12pm.

Contact Information: Coy Ainsley, Park Naturalist. 606-286-4411. Coy.Ainsley@ky.gov

MOUNTAIN BIKING



4/1/2008 to 11/30/2008

General Butler State Resort Park - Mountain Biking on the Fossil Trail

We invite you to experience our Fossil Trail at General Butler State Resort Park. Come gear down with us during these open times for Mountain Biking April - November. Riders under 16 years of age must have adult/guardian rider supervision at all times. Riders must wear helmets, and adhere to no ride dates as posted at Lodge Front Desk, Recreation Center and/or Bike Butler's website www.bikebutler.com. Caution is required since trail is open to hikers. Enjoy our challenging terrain and scenic beauty. One loop for the Fossil Trail is 4.5 miles and considered moderate skill level.

Contact Information: Tanya Supplee, Recreation Supervisor. 502-732-4384. Tanya.Supplee@ky.gov

9/28/2008

General Butler State Resort Park - Mud, Sweat & Gears Mountain Bike Race

The race is held for a variety of age & skill categories. Race held off road on the Fossil Trail of General Butler State Resort Park. Helmets are required. Fees vary depending upon age & skill level. Visit www.bikebutler.com for further details on registration.

Contact Information: Tanya Supplee, Recreation Supervisor. 502-732-4384. Tanya.Supplee@ky.gov

WILDLIFE VIEWING – EAGLE WATCHES



1/16/2009 to 1/18/2009

Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park – Gathering of Eagles

Forage in to the western Kentucky wilderness to learn about eagles and view them in their natural habitat. The weekend includes two different field trips by van or boat, viewing of an eagle nest, and educational programs. Land Between the Lakes and Ballard County Wildlife Refuge Management Area provide unique chances to view eagles and other wildlife. Different tour options available for both days. Registration fee varies based on selected tours.

Contact Information: Mary Greer, Recreation Supervisor. 270-362-4271. MaryA.Greer@ky.gov

1/23/2009 to 2/24/2009

Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park – Eagle Watch Weekend

Looking for an unforgettable encounter with nature? Why not visit us for an opportunity to view America's national symbol, the Bald Eagle, in its natural habitat? Our Eagle Weekends are devoted to the observation, education, and conservation of our national symbol.

We will be working with the KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and Trooper Island to provide you with a weekend you won't soon forget. Each weekend, we will offer guided boat tours on Dale Hollow Lake to view these majestic birds in the wild and educational programs one of which is a live birds of prey program. Try our Eagle Package for \$311.14, which includes Friday and Saturday night lodging for two, two dinners, one lunch, two breakfasts, one boat tour (am or pm) for two, and all programs. Educational programs will be offered including a live birds of prey program.

Contact Information: Jamie Avery, Recreation Supervisor. 270-433-7431. Jamie.Avery@ky.gov

1/30/2009 to 1/31/2009

Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park – Eagle Watch Weekend

Looking for an unforgettable encounter with nature? Why not visit us for an opportunity to view America's national symbol, the Bald Eagle, in its natural habitat? Our Eagle Weekends are devoted to the observation, education, and conservation of our national symbol.

We will be working with the KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and Trooper Island to provide you with a weekend you won't soon forget. Each weekend, we will offer guided boat tours on Dale Hollow Lake to view these majestic birds in the wild and educational programs one of which is a live birds of prey program. Try our Eagle Package for \$311.14, which includes Friday and Saturday night lodging for two, two dinners, one lunch, two breakfasts, one boat tour (am or pm) for two, and all programs. Educational programs will be offered including a live birds of prey program.

Contact Information: Jamie Avery, Recreation Supervisor. 270-433-7431. Jamie.Avery@ky.gov

1/30/2009 to 2/1/2009

Lake Barkley State Resort Park – Eagle Watch Weekend 2009

A success story of species conservation and education in the United States, the American Bald Eagle is a spectacular bird with a captivating history. Enjoy watching this bird from land and from the water during Lake Barkley's Eagle Watch Weekend. This annual event includes boat and van eagle-viewing tours, live bird-of-prey programs, conservation and education exhibits, and more.

Contact Information: Jenny Howard, Park Naturalist. 270-924-1131. Jenny.Howard@ky.gov

2/6/2009 to 2/8/2009

Kenlake State Resort Park – Visit with the Eagles

The magic of winter will soon be upon us, during this magical time join us at Kenlake State Resort Park to witness the majestic flight of the Eagle. Don't miss this opportunity to view America's national symbol, the Bald Eagle, in its natural habitat. Our Eagle Weekends are devoted to the observation, education, and conservation of our national symbol.

Contact Information: Cathy Clark, Recreation Supervisor. 270-474-2211. CathyJ.Clark@ky.gov

2/20/2009 to 2/21/2009

Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park – Eagle Watch Weekend

Looking for an unforgettable encounter with nature? Why not visit us for an opportunity to view America's national symbol, the Bald Eagle, in its natural habitat? Our Eagle Weekends are devoted to the observation, education, and conservation of our national symbol.

We will be working with the KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and Trooper Island to provide you with a weekend you won't soon forget. Each weekend, we will offer guided boat tours on Dale Hollow Lake to view these majestic birds in the wild and educational programs one of which is a live birds of prey program. Try our Eagle Package for \$311.14, which includes Friday and Saturday night lodging for two, two dinners, one lunch, two breakfasts, one boat tour (am or pm) for two, and all programs. Educational programs will be offered including a live birds of prey program.

Contact Information: Jamie Avery, Recreation Supervisor. 270-433-7431. Jamie.Avery@ky.gov

WILDLIFE VIEWING – ELK WATCHES



9/12/2008 to 9/14/2008

Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park - Fall Elk Watches - September

See the magnificent elk during their rutting season. Package price includes dinner and lodging on night of arrival with a bagged breakfast and transportation to and from the elk preserve the following day. Package price: 150.00 per couple, 110.00 for single and 40.00 for bagged breakfast with tour only.

Contact Information: Sue Thomas, Recreation Supervisor. 606-398-7510. Sue.Thomas@ky.gov

9/19/2008 to 9/20/2008, 10/10/2008 to 10/11/2008, 10/17/2008 to 10/18/2008, 10/31/2008 to 11/1/2008

Pine Mountain State Resort Park - Guided Elk Viewing Tours

Pine Mountain State Resort Park will again conduct fall and winter guided elk tours in 2008-09. With sightings that now average between 75-100 animals per trip, the tours have proven to be wildly popular. Participation in the Friday "Elk in Kentucky" program the evening before the tour is strongly encouraged, as it will serve as an invaluable enhancement to your enjoyment of the tour on Saturday morning. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars, camera, water, and snacks. Park lodging reservations must be made separately.

The Saturday van tour leaves the park at approximately 5:15 am and usually returns by 10:30 am. Observations will be made from both inside and outside the vans. Walking distances are minimal. While outside the vans, all members of the tour must stay together and participants are not permitted to leave the tour to explore on their own. As well, participants are not permitted to follow tour vans in their own vehicles.

For children under 8 years of age, careful consideration should be given as to whether or not they will remain attentive and interested for the duration of the tour. As the tour provider, we feel obligated to make every reasonable effort to assure that the tour experience is enjoyable for everyone. Kentucky's Child Restraint Law requires that every child less than 40 inches in height be restrained in a federally approved child safety seat any time the van is in motion. It should also be noted that public restrooms will not be available on the tour.

Elk in Kentucky are free-ranging wild animals. While the elk viewing percentage at this site is high and chances are excellent that elk will be observed, sightings are not guaranteed. We expect to see elk on every tour, but please note that refunds will not be given in the event elk are not observed.

Contact Information: Dean Henson, Park Naturalist. 606-337-3066. Dean.Henson@ky.gov

9/20/2008

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park - Elk Night

Enjoy a festive buffet night of elk meat with all the fixings, including carved elk, elk meatloaf, elk potpie, fried chicken, and assorted vegetables and salads, and a dessert bar. Planned nature and recreation activities and elk viewing tours will be available during the day. Elk have recently been introduced to Kentucky as a wildlife reintroduction program. Before the release in 1997, elk had been gone from Kentucky for nearly 150 years. Come celebrate the return of the elk to eastern Kentucky.

Contact Information: Trinity Shepherd, Park Naturalist. 606-889-1790. Trinity.Shepherd@ky.gov

9/20/2008 to 9/21/2008, 9/27/2008 to 9/28/2008

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park - Elk Viewing Tours – September

Elk were introduced to Kentucky beginning in 1997 as a restoration project from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Prior to the release, elk had been gone from Kentucky for nearly 150 years. Come witness this magnificent animal. This tour is designed for any age group as the tours occur on vans on reclaimed surface mined areas. Tour price is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children under the age of 12.

Contact Information: Trinity Shepherd, Park Naturalist. 606-889-1790. Trinity.Shepherd@ky.gov

10/11/2008 to 10/12/2008, 10/18/2008 to 10/19/2008, 10/25/2008 to 10/26/2008

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park - Elk Viewing Tours - October

Elk were introduced to Kentucky beginning in 1997 as a restoration project from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Prior to the release, elk had been gone from Kentucky for nearly 150 years. Come witness this magnificent animal. This tour is designed for any age group as the tours occur on vans on reclaimed surface mined areas. Tour price is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children under the age of 12.

Contact Information: Trinity Shepherd, Park Naturalist. 606-889-1790. Trinity.Shepherd@ky.gov

10/17/2008 to 10/19/2008

Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park - Fall Elk Watches - October

See the magnificent elk during their rutting season. Package price includes dinner and lodging on night of arrival with a bagged breakfast and transportation to and from the elk preserve the following day. Package price: 150.00 per couple, 110.00 for single and 40.00 for bagged breakfast with tour only.

Contact Information: Sue Thomas, Recreation Supervisor. 606-398-7510. Sue.Thomas@ky.gov

11/1/2008, 11/15/2008, 11/22/2008, 11/29/2008

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park - Elk Viewing Tours - November

Elk were introduced to Kentucky beginning in 1997 as a restoration project from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Prior to the release, elk had been gone from Kentucky for nearly 150 years. Come witness this magnificent animal. This tour is designed for any age group as the tours occur on vans on reclaimed surface mined areas. Tour price is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children under the age of 12.

Contact Information: Trinity Shepherd, Park Naturalist. 606-889-1790. Trinity.Shepherd@ky.gov

11/14/2008 to 11/16/2008, 11/21/2008 to 11/23/2008

Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park - Fall Elk Watches - November

See the magnificent elk during their rutting season. Package price includes dinner and lodging on night of arrival with a bagged breakfast and transportation to and from the elk preserve the following day. Package price: 150.00 per couple, 110.00 for single and 40.00 for bagged breakfast with tour only.

Contact Information: Sue Thomas, Recreation Supervisor. 606-398-7510. Sue.Thomas@ky.gov

12/05/2008 to 12/07/2008, 12/12/2008 to 12/14/2008

Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park - Fall Elk Watches - December

See the magnificent elk during their rutting season. Package price includes dinner and lodging on night of arrival with a bagged breakfast and transportation to and from the elk preserve the following day. Package price: 150.00 per couple, 110.00 for single and 40.00 for bagged breakfast with tour only.

Contact Information: Sue Thomas, Recreation Supervisor. 606-398-7510. Sue.Thomas@ky.gov

12/6/2008

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park - Elk Viewing Tours - December

Elk were introduced to Kentucky beginning in 1997 as a restoration project from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Prior to the release, elk had been gone from Kentucky for nearly 150 years. Come witness this magnificent animal. This tour is designed for any age group as the tours occur on vans on reclaimed surface mined areas. Tour price is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children under the age of 12.

Contact Information: Trinity Shepherd, Park Naturalist. 606-889-1790. Trinity.Shepherd@ky.gov

Please Note:

All Kentucky State Park Adventure Programs are subject to change and may be cancelled or postponed by the Kentucky Department of Parks due to unforeseen circumstances. Please confirm event schedule prior to arrival for date, time and fee information, especially if you plan to visit a Kentucky State Park for a specific event or program. Event / program details and contact information for all 52 Kentucky State Parks can be found www.parks.ky.gov.

For information on all Kentucky State Parks Adventure Programs and Special Events please contact:

**Shawn Pickens
Special Events Coordinator
Kentucky State Parks
502-564-4940 ext 247
Shawn.Pickens@ky.gov**